

## REMARKS

Claims 1 through 27 are pending.

In the following, the Examiner's comments, when included, are presented in bold, indented type, followed by the Applicants' remarks.

### *Claim Rejections — 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless —

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Goel et al., US# 5,960,427.

As per claim 1, Goel et al. teaches “identifying one or more groups of consecutive values in the set” (see fig. 5, and col. 5, lines 50-67) “removing equality conditions corresponding to the values in one or more of the identified groups; and adding one or more inequality conditions corresponding to the one or more of the identified groups” (see col. 13, lines 11-38).

The “set” referred to in the portion of claim 1 quoted by the examiner antecedently references a set of values that is linked to a database column by multiple alternative equality conditions. Neither Figure 5 nor the specified portion of column 5 teaches the identification of “consecutive” values. In fact, neither of those excerpts even mentions consecutive values, let alone identifies a group of such values in a set of values link to a database column by multiple equality conditions.

In addition, Goel does not teach or even mention at any point the use of inequality conditions. To the extent it is possible to use such conditions with the methods disclosed in Goel, the mere capability of providing an element does not establish anticipation. Goel does not disclose at least two required elements of the independent claims. Goel does not anticipate a claim that includes one or more limitations that Goel does not disclose. See *In re Paulsen*, 30 F.3d 1475, 1479 (Fed. Cir. 1994). Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn. Applicants also respectfully request that the rejections of claims 2-9 be withdrawn because those claims depend from independent claim 1 and contain the same untaught limitations.

As per claims 10-18, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1-10 and are similarly rejected.

Applicants assume that the reliance on arguments for claims 1-10 is in error where the Examiner had not discussed claim 10 in the previous section. For the same reasons as expressed with regard to claims 1-9, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 10-18 be withdrawn

**As per claims 19-27, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1-10 and are similarly rejected including the following:**

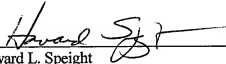
■ **Goel et al. teaches “a plurality of virtual process . . . rows organized in tables, an optimizer . . .” (see col. 10, lines 26-57 and col. 13, lines 33-51).**

Applicants assume that the reliance on arguments for claims 1-10 is in error where the Examiner had not discussed claim 10 in the previous sections. For the same reasons as expressed with regard to claims 1-9, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 19-27 be withdrawn

**SUMMARY**

Applicants contend that the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. Applicants do not believe any fees are necessary with the submitting of this response. Should any fees be required, Applicants request that the fees be debited from deposit account number 14-0225, Order Number 069092.0198.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Howard Speight", is written over a horizontal line.

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